

REMARKS

As stated above, Applicant respectfully elects herewith the embodiment of Group 2, FIGS. 7-8, embodying claims 9, 10, 11 and 13, for further prosecution. Furthermore, Applicant has amended claim 9 to include one of the features of claim 10, namely, that a distance between the rigid surface and the membrane increases from the center to the periphery.

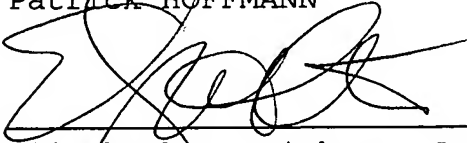
It is believed that the present invention is directed to a unitary inventive concept, namely, an electroacoustical transducer. It is believed that any search for the species embodied in claims 9, 10, 11 and 13 would necessarily include a search for the species embodied in the remaining claims. Thus, a simultaneous search for all of the species is believed not to constitute an unreasonable search for the Patent Examiner. In addition, it is believed that the objectives of streamlined examination and compact prosecution would be promoted if a search were conducted simultaneously for all of the species. Also, the necessity of filing multiple patent applications for the same invention does not serve to promote the public interest. This is because of the extra expense that is involved, in filing fees and

examination costs, as well as the burden upon the public due to the necessity of searching through a multiplicity of patent files in order to find the complete range of subject matter claimed in several different patents that could otherwise be found in one issued patent only.

The species according to FIGS. 5 and 6 and the species according to FIGS. 7 and 8 commonly comprise the elements of claim 9. The one and only difference between the two species is the mode of attachment of the chassis and the anvil. In the species according to FIGS. 5 and 6, the mode of attachment is peripheral with several vertical posts. In the species according to FIGS. 7 and 8, the attachment is axial and central with one vertical post. The consequence of this mode of attachment is the necessary use of a ring shaped membrane.

In the event that no generic claim is allowed, Applicant reserves the right to file divisional applications for the non-elected embodiments.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosure: Copy of a Petition for a five-month Extension of Time

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 2, 2008.


Amy Klein